

HONORING ROBBIE DAVIS GUNN

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this one woman who has given of herself to her family, church, community, and Nation; and

Whereas, Mrs. Robbie Davis Gunn's good works are present in Nashville, Tennessee as an exemplary mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, aunt, neighbor, community worker and friend; and

Whereas, this giant of a woman, who was raised up in the Providence Community, was born on August 20, 1928, to Rev. Robert Mitchell Davis and Mrs. Ada Edmondson Davis; and

Whereas, Robbie Davis Gunn was a virtuous woman, a woman of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting of her community and family which in turn uplifted others; and

Whereas, she was an exemplary mother and mother-in-law, serving as compass and wise counselor and bringing great joy to her own children and their spouses and friends; and

Whereas, Mrs. Robbie Davis Gunn loved her family, encouraging all of those around her to make a difference, be it her children, her elected officials, her neighbors and her church members at Lake Providence Missionary Baptist Church where she was a faithful member for 72 years; and

Whereas, this remarkable woman gave of herself, never asking for fame or fortune as she became a quiet storm, a spark that starts a flame; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a Congressional Recognition on Mrs. Robbie Davis Gunn for her leadership, friendship and service to all of the citizens of Nashville and the Nation;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby attest to the 112th Congress that Mrs. Robbie Davis Gunn of Nashville, Tennessee is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Recognition"—Mrs. Robbie Davis Gunn, U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Proclaimed, this 25th day of March, 2012.

IN RECOGNITION OF JONI D. LEE

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 23, 2012*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Sergeant Joni D. Lee for her 31 years of service with the South San Francisco Police Department. Long before community policing was a popular concept, Sergeant Lee personified a law enforcement officer fully integrated into the community. She has worked closely with local businesses, educated our youth and supported our senior citizens.

Sergeant Lee was hired as the first female officer by the San Francisco Police Depart-

ment in June 1980. In November 2000 she was promoted to sergeant, another first for a woman at the department. She was instrumental in developing county wide programs and protocols for the investigation of sexual assaults, exploitation of children on the internet and curbing school truancy.

During her three decades in law enforcement, Sergeant Lee has demonstrated her professionalism, outstanding skills in negotiations and handling of dangerous situations while keeping her humanity and an open mind.

She solved her very first murder case in 1988 within 48 hours, a benchmark in law enforcement. A man who lived with his divorced wife had taken in a transient man and his young girlfriend. Tragically, the transient shot the man. After the murder, Sergeant Lee befriended the girlfriend of the transient and feels that she made a difference in the young woman's life.

Sergeant Lee has worked on the Hostage Negotiation Team since 2000. In a high-profile hostage-suicide incident at the Travelodge in 2003, she was one of two primary negotiators and deserves credit for saving the life of the suspect's girlfriend. The suspect had barricaded himself and his girlfriend in a room at the motel after allegedly killing a prominent kick boxer. After about 14 hours of negotiations over the phone, Sergeant Lee convinced the girlfriend to leave the motel room.

Mr. Speaker, I have been at events with Sergeant Lee and have witnessed the air of safety and calm she radiates.

Sergeant Lee also worked as a Peer Support Advisor and Police Explorer Advisor. She was honored as the South San Francisco Police Association Officer of the Year in 1996 and 2003 and was awarded the Avoid the 23 Pin in 2002 and 2003.

Enthusiasm, optimism and generosity are in Sergeant Lee's DNA. Outside her work with the police department, she volunteers her time and expertise to Special Olympics and the Boy Scouts of America. She has also coached varsity softball at Menlo Atherton High School.

She was born in San Francisco in 1956 and attended South San Francisco High School. She earned her Associate in Arts, Administration of Justice from the College of San Mateo and her Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice Administration from San Jose State University.

In her spare time—of which she now will have much more upon her well deserved retirement—Sergeant Lee enjoys reading, softball, racquetball, bicycling, traveling, outlet shopping and cooking.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to honor Sergeant Joni Lee for her dedication to public service and safety. She will be deeply missed by her fellow officers and the law abiding residents of South San Francisco.

SMALL BUSINESS TAX CUT ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 19, 2012*

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak out against the fallacy that is H.R. 9.

I am always happy to support policy initiatives to stimulate economic growth and job creation and believe a private-public partnership during this time of economic recovery is essential.

Unfortunately, H.R. 9, the so-called Small Business Tax Cut Act, is a broad measure affecting 99.6 percent of all businesses that is not targeted at job creation.

The benefits it provides will be meted out unevenly and in an arbitrary manner, accruing in large measure to the wealthiest taxpayers.

While these facts alone argue for its rejection, this temporary and expensive provision is also the very antithesis of tax reform. It couldn't be further from the truth.

Yet again the Republican tax plan in the form of H.R. 9 would along with the Ryan Republican Budget Plan, serve to dismantle Medicare and instead hand older and disabled people a voucher toward the cost of private insurance. It's not a new or creative idea, and it will actually add more costs to families and to our Nation's bottom line. You cannot have a tax giveaway to a select few businesses while Medicare continues to suffer, ultimately hurting our most vulnerable.

While claiming to "preserve" Medicare, the plan would actually imperil the community program and shift much of the costs to the very people it is supposed to help. As private plans aggressively court the healthiest and least costly beneficiaries, the traditional Medicare program would be left with an ever dwindling pool of beneficiaries—those who are too sick and poor to purchase private insurance with the help of Mr. RYAN's coupon.

In time, Medicare will "wither on the vine," as those who oppose the program have long intended. Like last year's proposal from Mr. RYAN and last week's proposal from Senate Republicans, this plan does nothing to really preserve Medicare or to solve our Nation's skyrocketing healthcare costs.

It only slams those costs onto individuals who can least afford them: older and disabled Americans, while jeopardizing their health coverage, adding profits to corporations, and letting millionaires off the hook.

Similarly, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance program is our most important anti-hunger program, with over 46 million Americans in more than 21 million households relying on it to help feed themselves and their families. Yet, by advancing H.R. 9 this Majority takes away money that could be used to shore up this program which serves the truly destitute.

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, SNAP, is the cornerstone of the Nation's nutrition assistance safety net. SNAP touches the lives of over one in seven Americans. Indeed you could say that SNAP saves lives. Everyone's life is not as simple as some on the other side would have us believe—every person who is homeless cannot be fixed with magic dust and self-help policy prescriptions. Life is complicated and fraught with danger and uncertainty.

Lucky are many of us who go home to warm shelter, food, and family. There, but for the grace of God go I.

SNAP benefits are available to most people who meet the financial requirements, and the program serves a broad spectrum of low-income people. In Fiscal Year 2010, SNAP provided about \$5.4 billion in food benefits to a monthly average of over 3.6 million people in Texas.